



News Release

Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture

USDA, NASS, Montana Field Office
10 West 15th Street · Suite 3100 · Helena, MT 59626

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MARCH 2014 PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS MONTANA HIGHLIGHTS

Wheat is the crop with the most acreage at 5.65 million acres compared to 5.46 million last year and 5.80 million in 2012. Spring wheat seedings are estimated to be 2.60 million acres, down 350,000 from both 2013 and 2012. Winter wheat seedings are 2.50 million acres, up 500,000 acres from 2013 and up 200,000 from 2012. Durum seedings are set at 550,000 acres, up 45,000 from last year and even with 2012.

Montana barley producers intend to plant 900,000 acres, down 90,000 from the previous year and even with 2012. The intended seeded acreage for oats is expected to total 50,000 acres, even with 2013 and up 5,000 from 2012. Corn growers intend to plant 120,000 acres, even with last year and up 15,000 acres from two years ago. Acres planted to sugar beets are expected to total 45,100 acres, up 1,700 acres from 2013 but down 1,500 from 2012.

The area planted to all dry beans in Montana is expected to total 38,000 acres, up 14,000 from 2013 and up 6,000 acres from 2012. All garbanzo beans (chickpeas) area planted is expected to total 25,000 acres, up 7,000 acres from 2013 and up 2,000 acres from 2012. All dry pea area planted is expected to total 520,000 acres, up 80,000 acres from last year and up 205,000 acres from 2012. Austrian winter pea area planted is expected to total 20,000 acres, up 10,000 from 2013 and up 9,000 acres from 2012. Lentil acres planted for 2014 is expected to total 120,000 acres, down 20,000 acres from last year and down 85,000 acres from 2012.

Montana canola producers intend to plant 67,000 acres in 2014, down 5,000 acres from 2013 and up 16,000 acres from 2012. Flaxseed producers intend to plant 20,000 acres in 2014, unchanged from last year and up 2,000 acres from 2012.

Hay for harvest acres for 2014 in Montana are expected to be 2.70 million acres, down 100,000 acres from last year and up 500,000 acres from last year.

US HIGHLIGHTS

Corn planted area for all purposes in 2014 is estimated at 91.7 million acres, down 4 percent from last year. If realized, this will represent the lowest planted acreage in the United States since 2010; however, this will represent the fifth largest corn acreage in the United States since 1944.

The 2014 winter wheat planted area, at 42.0 million acres, is down 3 percent from last year but up slightly from the previous estimate. Area planted to other spring wheat for 2014 is expected to total 12.0 million acres, up 4 percent from 2013. Area seeded to Durum wheat for 2014 is expected to total 1.80 million acres, up 22 percent from 2013.

Area seeded to oats for the 2014 crop year is expected to total 2.79 million acres, down 7 percent from 2013. If realized, this will be the third lowest United States total on record. Producers intend to seed 3.17 million acres of barley for the 2014 crop year, down 9 percent from the previous year. If realized, this will be the third smallest seeded area on record.

Producers intend to harvest 58.3 million acres of all hay in 2014, up slightly from 2013.

Area planted to sugarbeets for the 2014 crop year is estimated at 1.15 million acres, down 4 percent from last year. Planted area is below the previous year in four of the ten estimating States.

Growers intend to plant 1.69 million acres of dry beans in 2014, up 24 percent from last year. Planted area is expected to be higher than last year in 12 of the 18 States in the dry bean estimating program. Expected area planted for all chickpeas is 217,800 acres, up 1 percent from last season. Area planted for dry edible peas for the 2014 crop year is expected to total 921,000 acres, up 7 percent from 2013. Planted area for Austrian winter peas is estimated at 28,500 acres, up 58 percent from 2013. Area planted to lentils for the 2014 crop year is expected to total 320,000 acres, down 12 percent from 2013.

Producers intend to plant 1.74 million acres of canola in 2014, up 29 percent from 2013. If realized, planted area in the United States will be the second largest on record. Producers intend to plant 326,000 acres of flaxseed in 2014, up 145,000 acres or 80 percent more than was planted in 2013.

For complete results of the 2014 Prospective Plantings report go to www.nass.usda.gov.